

COUNCIL CONSTITUTION – PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 Following acceptance of this Committee's recommendations on the review of overview and scrutiny, it is now necessary to update the Council's Constitution prior to implementation in the new Municipal Year.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Council adopted the present Constitution, based on guidance issued by the then Department of Environment Transport and the Regions, in 2002. While there have been various amendments in the interim, this is the first revision of the whole document since that date.

3 WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

- 3.1 To implement the new structure, Full Council must approve the Constitution by April 2006. Having led on the review, it is proposed that this Committee consider the draft amendments before referral to the Policy & Finance Committee. It is also proposed that the Standards Committee should consider the draft in relation to matters concerning the ethical framework.
- 3.2 Amendments are shown shaded in Parts 1 to 7 of the draft appended to this report. This is being circulated separately. Article 14 provides that the Monitoring Officer will keep the Constitution under review to ensure its aims and principles are given full effect. Therefore, as well as amendments necessary for the new structure, some tidying up has been included. Attention will be drawn to this at the meeting.

4 RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RECOMMENDS** the revision of the Constitution to the Standards and Policy & Finance Committees.

John Honey

Corporate Director (Law, Planning & Administration)

Background Papers:-

None

For further information please contact John Honey on:-

Tel:- 01702 318004

E-Mail:- john.honey@rochford.gov.uk